

## VOLUNTEERS

*This Policy Statement was developed by the International Women's Health Programme Committee and approved by the Executive and Council of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada in March 2003.*

### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) depends on the services of volunteers for its activities and programmes and to achieve the overall goals of the organization. Volunteers contribute diverse skills, talents, and vast expertise. The SOGC would cease to function to the best of its ability without the immense contribution and dedication of volunteers.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear framework for working with volunteers, to define the general role of the volunteer within the SOGC, and to ensure that volunteers are treated fairly and their contributions recognized, acknowledged, and celebrated.

### **DEFINITION**

Volunteers are individuals who contribute time, service, and expertise to assist the SOGC in the accomplishment of its mission. The SOGC recognizes the contribution of its volunteers by documenting their "in kind" contributions as need be.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE VOLUNTEER**

SOGC volunteers agree to support the SOGC Mission Statement: to promote optimal women's health through leadership, collaboration, education, research, and advocacy in the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology. Volunteers also agree to complete tasks to the best of their ability, within a given time frame. The SOGC will clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the volunteer, who will then follow the job description and take direction from an SOGC representative. All volunteers will be treated with respect and courtesy.

Volunteers must maintain the confidentiality of all proprietary and privileged information to which they may be exposed, whether this information involves SOGC Board members, general volunteers, or members of this organization.

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